

HISTORY OF JAPAN

HISTORY 263/4 LEC. AA

WINTER, 2002

INSTRUCTOR: Martin Singer

OFFICE: AD 229 (Loyola); LB-689 (SGW)

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OFFICE HOURS: By appointment

CLASS HOURS: Wednesdays 18:05-20:10

TEACHING ASSISTANT: Deborah Shulman
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COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This course provides an introduction to Japan's history from earliest times to the modern era. The first half of the course is devoted to traditional Japan and consists of a series of thematic and chronological lectures on Japanese history until 1800. The second half focuses on Japan since 1800, with particular emphasis on the opening of Japan to the West, on Japan's modernization and expansion in the late 19th and early 20th century and on the rebuilding of Japan since 1945.

COURSE WEBSITE:

The course website (located at <http://artsandscience.concordia.ca/hist263>) is an integral part of the course. There students will find both the course syllabus and lecture schedule that have been distributed in class; a list of topically arranged suggested readings; and links to other Japan internet resources. As well, outlines and video versions of each week's lecture will be posted on the website several days after each lecture is delivered. Finally, the course website contains both a message board and an electronic discussion group for course related matters.

REQUIRED TEXTS:

De Bary, Sources of Japanese Tradition - Volume I

Tsunoda, Sources of Japanese Tradition – Volume II

Schirokauer, A Brief History of Japanese Civilization

EXAMINATIONS:

There will be a mid-term examination on Wednesday February 13 and a formal final examination which is to be scheduled during the April examination period.

OPTIONAL PAPERS:

Some students may wish to do an optional paper in addition to the two examinations. They should look initially at the list of suggested reading topics that is posted on the course website. Those who wish to pursue other topics should do so only after consultation with, and approval from, the instructor. Each student electing to do an optional paper is expected to read at least three books on the theme that he or she selects and to produce a short (10-page) critical essay based on the readings. The optional essay is to be type written and must be submitted no later than Wednesday, March 20 to be considered.

GRADING:

For those students who do not write the optional term paper, the grading distribution will be as follows: mid-term exam – 40%, final exam – 60%. For those students who do write an optional paper, the grading distribution will be as follows: mid-term – 25%, paper 25%, final – 50%.

**HISTORY OF JAPAN
SCHEDULE OF LECTURES AND READINGS
WINTER, 2002**

TRADITIONAL JAPAN
(**READINGS:** Schirokauer, Chapters 1-7; Sources, Vol. I)

Jan. 9	Geographical context of Japanese History
Jan.16	Early History of Japan
Jan. 23	Heian Period (794-1185)
Jan. 30	Kamakura Period (1185-1333)
Feb. 6	Ashikaga Period (1336-1573) and Early Tokugawa Period (1600-1800)
Feb. 13	Mid-term Examination
Feb. 20	Study Week – No Class

MODERN JAPAN
(**READINGS:** Schirokauer, Chapters 8-12; Sources, Vol. II)

Feb. 27	The Decline of the Tokugawa Period (1800-1868)
March 6	Meiji Restoration (1868-1912), phase one
March 13	Meiji Restoration (1868-1912), phase two
March 20	World War I and its Aftermath (1912-1930)
March 27	World War II in the Pacific (1931-1945)
April 3	Occupation and Recovery (1945-1970)
April 10	Japan Today